

**2nd Sunday After Epiphany
January 16, 2022**

Rev. Kelley L. Pedersen, Interim Pastor



The Sundays after Epiphany continue to celebrate the revelation of God's glory to us as it was made known to the magi and to those on Jordan's banks at Jesus' baptism—today using wedding imagery. Our God rejoices over God's people as those being married rejoice over one another. By the power of the Spirit there are gifts galore for everyone. In Christ Jesus the best wine is saved for last. Taste and see.

(*please stand as you are able)

(Congregation reads **bold** print)

Welcome & Announcements

***Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
who creates us,
redeems us,
and calls us by name.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we have sinned against you
and your beloved children.**

**We have turned our faces away from your glory
when it did not appear as we expected.**

**We have rejected your word
when it made us confront ourselves.**

**We have failed to show hospitality
to those you called us to welcome.**

**Accept our repentance for the things we have done
and the things we have left undone.**

For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

**Forgive us and lead us, that we may bathe
in the glory of your Son born among us,
and reflect your love for all creation.**

Amen.

Rejoice in this good news:

In ✝ Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven.

You are descendants of the Most High,
adopted into the household of Christ,
and inheritors of eternal life.

Live as freed and forgiven children of God.

Amen.

***Hymn** "Brightest and Best of the Stars" #303

***Greeting**

The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

***Prayer of the Day**

Lord God, source of every blessing, you showed forth your glory and led many to faith by the works of your Son, who brought gladness and salvation to his people. Transform us by the Spirit of his love, that we may find our life together in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

First Reading: Isaiah 62:1-5

The people's return to Judah after the exile was marred by economic and political troubles. Nevertheless, the prophet declares, Jerusalem and Judah will be restored. God will rejoice over Jerusalem as a bridegroom rejoices over the bride, and the people are called to the celebration.

- ¹For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,
and her salvation like a burning torch.
- ²The nations shall see your vindication,
and all the kings your glory;
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the LORD will give.
- ³You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.
- ⁴You shall no more be termed Forsaken,
and your land shall no more be termed Desolate;
but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her,
and your land Married;
for the LORD delights in you,
and your land shall be married.
- ⁵For as a young man marries a young woman,
so shall your builder marry you,
and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride,
so shall your God rejoice over you.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: Psalm 36:5-10

We feast upon the abundance of your house, O LORD. (Ps. 36:8)

⁵Your love, O LORD, reaches to the heavens,
and your faithfulness to the clouds.

⁶**Your righteousness is like the strong mountains, your justice like the great deep
you save humankind and animals, O LORD.**

⁷How priceless is your love, O God!

All people take refuge under the shadow of your wings.

**⁸They feast upon the abundance of your house;
you give them drink from the river of your delights.**

⁹For with you is the well of life,
and in your light we see light.

**¹⁰Continue your lovingkindness to those who know you,
and your favor to those who are true of heart.**

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

The congregation at Corinth experienced division as people were comparing their spiritual gifts, thinking some to be superior to others. Paul invites this fractured community to trust that God's Holy Spirit has gifted them all perfectly for their mission together.

¹Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. ²You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. ³Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says "Let Jesus be cursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit.

⁴Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; ⁶and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

***Gospel Acclamation -- p. 102**

*The Holy Gospel according to John, the 2nd Chapter. **Glory to You, O Lord**

Gospel: John 2:1-11

Turning water to wine at the wedding at Cana is described as the first of Jesus' signs. Through many such epiphanies, Jesus reveals that he bears God's creative power and joyful presence into the world.

¹On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. ²Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. ³When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." ⁴And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." ⁵His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." ⁶Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. ⁷Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. ⁸He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. ⁹When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom ¹⁰and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have

become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.”¹¹ Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Message

Hymn of the Day “Soul, Adorn Yourself With Gladness” #488

***Nicene Creed**

We believe in one God,

**the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

**the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation

**he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven**

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

**who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

***Prayers of Intercession**

The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance; so we are bold to pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made.

A brief silence.

By your Spirit, activate within your church gifts of faith, healing, and prophecy. Unite those who profess your name across congregations, denominations, and geographic

boundaries. Open our hearts to recognize and celebrate surprising miracles. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Your creation reflects your generosity. Bless farmers, migrant farmworkers, orchard-keepers, ranchers, and all who tend the abundance of the land. Protect food and water sources from destruction, that all can eat and drink and be satisfied. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

By your Spirit, grant wisdom, knowledge, and discernment to those who hold leadership positions at any level. Direct policymakers toward compassionate decisions that build up safe and just communities. Lead all authorities in seeking and serving the common good. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

As Jesus provided generously in a moment of need, provide generous gifts of healing for those in need this day (*especially*). Provide abundantly for all who are hungry or thirsty, all seeking shelter, and all who seek peace. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

You see us for who we are and you delight in us. Embrace those struggling with self-worth, wrestling with self-identity, or facing significant life transition. Remind us that nothing can separate us from your love. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

You bless us through the spiritual gifts of the saints who have gone before us. We give thanks for the life of Martin Luther King Jr. and all who have modeled the way of courageous faith (*especially*). God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

***Peace**

May the peace of God be with you all.

And also with you.

Offering

Noisy Offering for U.S. Wildfires (Lutheran Disaster Response)

***Doxology #884**

***Offering Prayer**

Blessed are you, O God,
Sovereign of the universe.
You offer us new beginnings
and guide us on our journey.
Lead us to your table,
nourish us with this heavenly food,
and prepare us to carry your love
to a hungry world,
in the name of Christ our light.

Amen.

***Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise. We praise your name and join their unending hymn.

***Holy, Holy, Holy** p. 144

***Words of Institution**

***Lord's Prayer** p. 145

***Invitation to Communion**

Come to God's table.

There is a place for you and enough for all.

Communion (continuous)

Come forward in the center aisle, distancing as desired. Please cup your hands to receive the bread. Move to the right or left to receive the wine. Return to your pew via the side aisles. Gluten-free wafers are available in the container in front of the font.

Those who wish to be served at their seats or use the individual pre-packaged elements at their seats may stand to hear the words for individual distribution.

Distribution Hymns: 1059 ACS - Come now, you blessed 1062 ACS - Build a longer table

***Prayer after Communion**

We give you thanks, gracious God,
for we have feasted on the abundance of your house.

Send us to bring good news
and to proclaim your favor to all,
strengthened with the richness of your grace
in your Son, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

***Blessing**

God, who leads you in pathways of righteousness,
who rejoices over you,
and who calls you by name,
✚ bless your going out and your coming in,
today and forever.

Amen.

***Sending Hymn** "Songs of Thankfulness and Praise" #310

***Dismissal**

Go with Christ into a weary world.
Share the good news.
Thanks be to God.

Baptized believers sent into God’s world to share God’s love and grace.

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Welcome! May you be blessed as we worship together!

Pr. Kelley can be reached at 402-750-9944 (cell).

Sadie’s New Hours:

Tuesday 12:50-4:00
Thursday 12:50-4:00
Friday 11:50-2:30
Some Mondays 11:50-2:30

Sadie can always be reached at 712-251-6457.

Nominating Committee Update:

We are striving to fill 2 open positions on the Board of Education (BOE). These are 2-year terms and would serve mainly with the Kid's Zone ministry currently on Wednesday afternoons. Please pray about this opportunity & reach out to the nominating committee with questions or nominations.
--Sherry Beaver, Patti Christiansen or Blake Stratton

There are hats and gloves on a table. Please take one if you know someone who is in need.

During the Lent season, following Ash Wednesday up until Palm Sunday we will be doing the Lent drama “The People Vs. Judas Iscariot: The Punishment Phase.” We are asking people to portray different characters within the drama, including congregational members, confirmation students, and confirmation parents. If you are interested in being a part of the drama, please contact Pastor Kelley.

This Week’s Events: Jan 10-16

Mon.		Office Closed
Tues.	7:00pm	AA Meeting (Contact person is Larry S., 712-251-4207)
Wed.	10:00am	Adult Bible Study (If another time works better, please share that with Pr. Kelley.)
	6:00-7:15p	Confirmation
Sun. Jan 23	9:00am	Third Sunday After Epiphany Service
Sun. Jan 23		Annual Meeting Preview After Worship

